DEBATES 3039

DELEGATE SHERBOW: I am not requesting it. I do not want to be placed in the position of saying I was not for the distribution. That was all.

THE PRESIDENT: I think we are following the procedure that amendments are distributed only when requested by the delegates.

Are there any further questions as to procedure?

(There was no response.)

Very well.

The Chair recognizes Delegate Hostetter.

DELEGATE HOSTETTER: Mr. President, at this time I would like to move the reconsideration of Amendment No. 5 to R&P-1 and 2 that failed by a 60-60 tie vote on Friday.

THE PRESIDENT: You move, I take it, that the Convention reconsider the vote by which Amendment No. 5 was rejected on a tie?

DELEGATE HOSTETTER: That is correct.

THE PRESIDENT: Is there a second?

(Whereupon, the motion was seconded.)

THE PRESIDENT: Very well.

The question arises on the motion to reconsider the vote by which Amendment No. 5 was rejected. The motion has been seconded.

The Chair recognizes Delegate Hostetter to speak to the motion, if he desires.

DELEGATE HOSTETTER: Mr. President, I will not take the Convention's time. I think we have gone up and down the ladder and discussed this to a great extent, and since the Convention does need the extra time, I certainly would be willing at this point to speak no further on it, but just urge that the delegates vote to reconsider his Amendment No. 4 which would delete section 1.17 from R&P-1 and 2.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Boyce.

DELEGATE BOYCE: Mr. President and fellow delegates: I rise to do a rather unusual thing, for me.

I have been opposed to Delegate Hostetter. I have been very much for 1.17 in the constitution. I feel very strongly that it should be there. But I find us terribly divided, and I find the future of this constitution may be in doubt.

Over the weekend, like a great many other delegates, I have sweated and worried and talked and done everything I could to try and persuade, so that we might get a sensible and a wholly competent thought into the constitution on the question of labor, and let everybody in the State then feel that they are free to back this constitution, rather than have it divided down the middle here.

Delegate Scanlan and Delegate Adkins have written an amendment which Delegate Sickles and myself and Delegate E. J. Clarke have gone over. This is perfecting Amendment "FF", which is now before you, and it will be voted on if reconsideration passes.

What I am hopeful for is that reconsideration will win with a good vote, and then we can adopt this amendment to 1.17, and then get a large vote there and keep this thing in and go on about the rest of our business of this constitution.

Some of my fellow delegates who have seen eye to eye with me on this for a long time are quite upset with me for taking this position, and I understand completely their feeling. They are afraid that the rug has been pulled out from under them.

But I think it is due time in the constitution that we calmly look at this question, try and get it approved by as big a vote as we can, and see if it is not possible to look in the eyes of the people of the State of Maryland and say that we have done what they really want us to do.

I shall first vote for reconsideration, and then I shall vote for Amendment FF; then I shall vote for 1.17 as amended to stay in the constitution. I hope we can get a large vote going all three ways on this.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: Does any other delegate desire to speak in favor of reconsideration?

Delegate Koss.

DELEGATE KOSS: Mr. President, may I please address a parliamentary inquiry?

I am somewhat confused by what Delegate Boyce just said, because it was my understanding that amendments such as FF would still be in order whether or not reconsideration was in order.

Is this correct?

THE PRESIDENT: This is true.

DELEGATE KOSS: Thank you.